



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 005950-742

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
)	
James et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3673
)	
Application No.: 09/964,930)	Examiner: Kreck, John J.
)	
Filed: September 26, 2001)	Confirmation No.: 2190
)	
For: Bentonite Nodules)	
)	

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313 -1450

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APR 27 2004

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action dated December 22, 2003, Applicants submit herewith a petition for one month extension of time extending the period of response from March 22, 2004 until April 22, 2004 and the following Response.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this Response.



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Patent
Attorney Docket No. 005950-742

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
Maurice L. James et al.
Application No.: 09/964,930
Filing Date: September 26, 2001
Title: BENTONITE NODULES

Group Art Unit: 3673
Examiner: Kreck, John J.
Confirmation No.: 2190

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the ☐ \$55.00 (2814) ☐ \$110.00 (1814) fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.
- ☐ Also enclosed is/are _____

- ☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the ☐ \$385.00 (2801) ☐ \$770.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
- ☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted _____

_____ on _____
for which continued examination is requested.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- ☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below.

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional F e
Total Claims	32	MINUS 33 =	0	x \$18.00 (1202) =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	4	MINUS 4 =	0	x \$86.00 (1201) =	\$ 0.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$290.00 (1203)					
Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$ 0.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

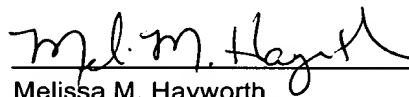
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 22, 2004

By



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